

ERIC P. NEWMAN NUMISMATIC EDUCATION SOCIETY

6450 Cecil Avenue, St. Louis, Missouri 63105

August 15, 1994

Mr. Clyde Hubbard  
Apartado Postal 46-5  
C.P. 62051 Las Palmas  
Cuernavaca, Mexico

Dear Clyde:

I congratulated you personally for the Hall of Fame Award at the ANA but in the calm of such pleasant things, I want to do it again. Thus, I do.

You will recall my question to someone else came back to you about whether and which (if any) Spanish minted 4 reales and 8 reales pieces of the 18th century had 20% reduction in silver content as did the pistareens and their fractions. It is my understanding that no Spanish-American mints made major reductions in silver content in the 18th century. I am writing about something where in West Florida in the late 18th century some merchants used 8 reales to the peso in pricing and calculations, and other used 10 reales in pricing and multiplying calculations. What did they do in Spain? Did an 8 reales piece of Spanish origin pass for 10 reales or was it reduced in value? Please straighten me out.

You may also recall that I said that my wife and I are going to Mexico for the Xmas season. We go to Guaymas December 14, 1994, cruise on the Sea of Cortez until December 18, drive to Los Mochis and take the Copper Canyon train, and end up in Chihuahua, then December 21 San Luis Potosi, Zacatecas, San Miguel, Queretero, ending in Mexico City on December 27, 1994. We have not planned our next 4 days more or less before we go home. My wife has never been to Cuernavaca and we thought that would be charming. We have not been in Mexico City for 50 years so there is plenty for us to do. We went there about 1943 to see the Volcano Paricutin be born near Lake Patzcuaro. If you have any suggestions for us anywhere on the above trip, please make them.

You suggested we visit you in your home but although we would be delighted to see you and have fun with you, we wish to stay at a hotel or pension in Cuernavaca and not bother you.

Of course, if you have never taken the Copper Canyon railroad or want to visit any city on our planned trip with Lindblad Special Expeditions, you may feel free to join us for any part. We may not know enough about Spanish or Mexican coins, but we do lead an exciting life.

My telephone at home is [REDACTED]. My office telephone is [REDACTED]. My Fax is [REDACTED]. I will call you if writing is not fast enough. I have [REDACTED] as your number.

I look forward to hearing from you.

Sincerely,

Eric P. Newman

EPN:bv

9/6/94

TE

VJES VILLADRIANA

Eric P. Newman St. Louis, Missouri. FAX [REDACTED]

Dear Eric:

Thank you for your good wishes on my joining your distinguished company in the Numismatic Hall of Fame.

I am delighted that you and your wife will be in Mexico in December. A good friend and avid collector, Constantino Villalobos, of San Luis Potosí would be happy to show you around his city. If you will tell me when you expect to be there I will get in touch with him. He speaks English.

Mexico City at 7,200 feet above sea level has increasing air pollution especially in the winter months. It is a good idea to take it easy upon arrival there. Cuernavaca offers better climate at 5,000 feet elevation. I hope you will be able to spend some days here. You are welcome to stay at my home if you wish, but I realize that you may want the independence of hotel accommodations. In that case I would recommend Hosteria Las Quintas, Avenida Presidente Diaz Ordaz 107, 62440 Cuernavaca, Morelos. FAX [REDACTED]. It has 7,000 square meters of tropical gardens.

I can drive to Mexico City to pick you up any day except Thursday. Smog control law obliges all cars to rest one day per week.

My telephone number is [REDACTED] and am best reached at 8:30 A.M. or 2:30 P.M. Central Standard Time. My maid is here from 7 A.M. to 3 P.M. and does not speak English, so you can reach me late afternoons or evenings.

A quicker mail address drop is 9297 Siempre Viva Rd., Suite MX 021-050, San Diego, CA 92173. I have a computer but FAX has not been connected and is presently out of order due to a faulty keyboard.

I will mail you information regarding Spanish and Spanish American coinages. Briefly, 8 and 4 reales of both areas followed pretty much the same pattern of silver content with very minor differences.

After Detroit I went book hunting in Chicago and found a remainder copy of THE MERCHANT OF MANCHAC. THE LETTERBOOKS OF JOHN FITZPATRICK 1768-1790. Louisiana State University Press. Baton Rouge. 1978. Many of the business transactions were with West Florida. If you do not have the book there are probably other copies available in the store where I bought mine. Cost \$7.50

Sincerely,

*Clyde*  
Clyde Hubbard

Dear Eric,  
Here are excerpts:

COLUMBIANA. MOR  
SEPT. 6, 1994

1. A MANUAL OF GOLD & SILVER COINS OF ALL NATIONS  
ECKFELDT & DUBOIS PHILADELPHIA (1851) (2nd ed.)  
TITLE PAGE + pages 117-122
2. ESTUDIO DE LOS REALES DE A CONO.  
TOMAS DASÍ VALENCIA 1951 VOL. III  
TITLE PAGE +  
Page 22-23 49-55 + p. CLXXXI
3. MONEY & EXCHANGE IN EUROPE & AMERICA 1600-1775  
JOHN V. McCUSKER UNIV OF N. CAROLINA PRESS  
TITLE PAGE + pp 10-11, 98-100, 230, 299-300
4. TRATADO GENERAL DE MONEDAS, PESAS, MEDIDAS  
Y CAMBIOS  
(General Treatise on coins, weights, measures &  
exchange of all nations converted to ones  
used in Spain.  
TOMAS ANTONIO DE MARIEN Y ARRISPIOT MADRID. 1789.  
TITLE PAGE + pages 1-4
5. DICCIONARIO DE LA MONEDA HISPANOAMERICANA.  
VOL. I SANTIAGO, CHILE 1958.  
TITLE, pages 273-275  
VOL. II pages 19-23, 224-227

THIS last one probably answers your question better  
than any of the five references. The Spanish loved to  
complicate things by juggling numbers.

All the best -  
Olydy

ERIC P. NEWMAN NUMISMATIC EDUCATION SOCIETY

6450 Cecil Avenue, St. Louis, Missouri 63105

Mr. Clyde Hubbard  
9297 Siempre Viva Blvd.  
Suite MX 021-050  
San Diego, CA 92173

September 20, 1994

Dear Clyde:

I was most appreciative of your FAX of 6 September 1994 and thank you for the many suggestions.

It is amazing that you found The Merchant of Manchac on sale in Chicago. The author sent me the microfilm of the manuscript letterbooks and this has been my source for a great quantity of information. It has been known for a long time but never studied in full detail as to the \$ sign. I will buy some of the books and give them to ANS and ANA if you tell me the name and address of the bookstore. I already paid full price for mine.

I am checking with the tour operator as to San Luis Potosi as to our program there. It so happens that my great uncle Antonio Maestre is buried there. He was minister of health under Porfirio Diaz I believe.

Let me have a few weeks to work on details of the trip and I will be in touch with you. I look forward to your report on the differences between the silver content of Spanish and Spanish American coinage.

Sincerely yours,



Eric P. Newman

Eric P. Newman

6450 Cecil Ave.  
St. Louis, Mo. 63105

9/23/94

Dear Clyde:

Thank you for the data on specie content of Spanish coin and the translation. I will study it. I do not find pistareen there. I will have a few questions to ask you in due course.

As to your inquiry about 1768 being the first date of the \$ sign I find none earlier. I think it all began about 1764 and am enclosing my preliminary draft of the portion explaining why the English developed the use in Louisiana of dollar and being excellent bookkeepers I assume they wanted a practical peso sign which was not 2 lines high as  $\text{\$}$  was. All of the traders who received Fitzpatrick's letters were English, spoke English, used the word dollar etc with few exceptions. No other \$ signs are known in any other area until 1776 when it was used in New York.

My best

Eric

Clyde Hubbard  
9297 Siempre Viva Rd.  
Suite MX 021-050  
San Diego, CA 92173

Cuernavaca, Morelos  
October 3, 1994

Mr. Eric Newman  
6450 Cecil Avenue  
St Louis, Missouri 63105

Dear Eric:

The Merchant of Manchac came from Powell's Book Store, 2850 North Lincoln Avenue,  
Chicago, Il 60657.

This is one of their three outlets in Chicago; they specialize in remainders and I always visit one of  
the stores when in Chicago. They have a large stock that includes books on economic history.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Clyde". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Clyde Hubbard

Dear Clyde:

I appreciate all of the numismatic data you sent me and  
will talk it over with you when we meet in Mexico.  
Our ~~new~~ schedule (as I understand it) is that we leave  
on <sup>13</sup> Dec ~~1994~~ for Tucson, sail from Guaymas on  
14 Dec ~~1994~~ for 4 days, 18 Dec to Los Mochis (via Alamos  
I hope), Chihuahua on 20 Dec, morning flight to <sup>San Luis Potosi</sup> ~~Chihuahua~~ <sup>to try to find out</sup>  
San Luis Potosi where we spend the night (if your friend  
~~Constantino~~ can be with us either in the afternoon or evening <sup>Villalobos</sup>  
we would be delighted. I will ~~call him or try to be~~  
~~contact with him~~ contact him unless we can arrange it  
in advance.

We arrive in Mexico City on ~~Tuesday~~ <sup>Tuesday</sup> 27 Dec  
1994 and plan to stay at

Mention Plaza

Since we leave by air from Mexico City at  
10 AM 1 Jan 1995 I think we should be  
in Mexico City for ~~30 Dec~~ 31 Dec. We  
are flexible to stay in Cuernavaca on  
28 Dec 29, 30 or <sup>part of</sup> that. P

Hosteria La Quintas in Cuernavaca  
FA 52 73 18 38 25

Hubbard

8<sup>30</sup>A  
2<sup>30</sup>P

Marquis  
Hotel

Cuernavaca, Morelos  
October 10, 1994

Dear Angel Margo,

Someone inadvertently left the door ajar and this lightning bug entered a hall filled with megawatt luninaries. I suspected that you might have had a part in it and I thank you. The nicest feature of the honor is that it represents many treasured friendships. Remember when we first met at the TNA convention in Corpus Christi in 1965? You gave a great panoramic view of numismatics past and present, predicting the withdrawal of silver from U.S. coinage.

As you remarked in your letter, it has been fun and still continues to be a source of great pleasure. Next on the program is a coin show in Mexico City starting October 18. Eric Newman and his wife plan to visit Mexico in December starting with a tour of Copper Canyon in the north and drifting down this way just after Christmas.

"Where do we go from here" is one of the themes of THE NOTEBOOKS OF LAZARUS LONG, by Robert A. Heinlein. Long, of science fiction fame lived several centuries and summarized his philosophy in the notebooks. "There is no conclusive evidence of life after death. But there is no evidence of any sort against it. Soon enough you will know. So why fret about it?"

A sampling of others:

"Always listen to experts. They'll tell you what can't be done, and why. Then do it."

"An elephant: A mouse built to government specifications."

"Never underestimate the power of human stupidity."

"Never try to outstubborn a cat."

"Do not handicap your children by making their lives easy."

Again, thank you Angel Margo for your kind words.

Love,



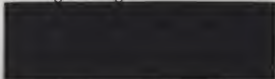


ERIC P. NEWMAN NUMISMATIC EDUCATION SOCIETY

6450 Cecil Avenue, St. Louis, Missouri 63105

January 11, 1995

Sr. Miguel Angel Porrua



Dear Sr. Porrua:

When we were on a recent trip to Mexico to visit Clyde Hubbard, he presented us with your book *Casa Moneda de Mexico Presencia en el Mundo, 1536-1990*. It is a privilege to have it in our library. Its photography is superb and its artistry elucidates the importance and beauty of the Mexican numismatic material.

I was particularly pleased with the inclusion of the Mexican use of the \$ in 1822 because I am writing on that subject now. It is curious that the abbreviation Ps for pesos was consolidated into \$ for convenience first in Louisiana, Florida and the West Indies by English speaking traders who used the peso as the basic monetary unit. The United States had early difficulty popularizing the \$ but finally it has gone world wide. It is your peso.

I congratulate you on your bibliographical accomplishment and am glad you enabled Clyde to participate in it. Thank you for your kindness.

Sincerely yours,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "Eric P. Newman", with a long, sweeping horizontal stroke extending to the right.

Eric P. Newman

EPN:bv

Mr. Clyde Hubbard

January 18, 1995

Dear Clyde:

The delightful time we had with you in Cuernavaca has not dimmed in the light of the complications which befell us since then.

Evelyn improved substantially after the doctor you found for us prescribed remedies, but her cough and altitude conditions did not straighten out until now. She has finally returned to full action and thanks you from the bottom of her throat.

Our trip to Mexico City was a confinement to the Marquis Hotel except for the Anthropological museum. When we returned home I had two numismatic deaths to contend with - Harry Shear whom I saw every week in St. Louis and Ruth Hill (age 96) of St. Louis, one of the leading foreign paper money collectors of the world and who had a paper money library of a class like your Mexican coin library. I was very close to both of them and now I have no one in St. Louis to talk numismatics with. I should not bother you with this as your girl friend's problems are more than enough.

Everything else is upbeat. I spoke to Margo and told her how fascinating our visit was. I spoke to Peter Gaspar, professor of Chemistry at Washington University in St. Louis, who met you at ANS in New York years ago and who admires your work. He wrote with Dyer the 1600 to 1900 section of the history of the Royal Mint published in 1992. I told him about seeing the Encyclopaedia Britannica 1824 edition in your library and he is checking the prior and subsequent editions as he was not fully aware of the illustrations and data on them. I believe you are going to send me photocopies of the pages in your edition.

I mailed the letter to your daughter in law. I enclose the R.H. Burnie auction sale data of 1956 as I said I would. He had none of the coins and the auction was fictitious. He went to Mexico where he was arrested and returned.

The second edition of my Early Paper Money of America will be sent or delivered to you somehow. I hesitate to send it to San Diego as you said your transfer of it to Mexico is by weight. I'll get it to you some other way.

A copy of my letter to the Casa de Moneda is enclosed.

I am having a check for the \$419 Mex sent to you with the cash I have left over, but I have to do something about the

exchange problem which occurred while we were there. What a mess.

What my wife and I really look forward to is your visit in the spring when our gigantic book fair takes place. The date is not yet set and we will advise you. Your library was overwhelming and we want you to add to it. You will enjoy staying with us even though we have no squirrels, peacocks, white crested cranes, or toucans. Our automatic garage doors are not as responsive as yours.

I expect to hear from Ted Buttrey at any time and realize how much you have worked together.

We again thank you for your courtesies to us and hope that our friendship continues to grow. Your help on my research projects is well appreciated, particularly the 1822 use of the \$ sign in Mexico. Please ask us to do anything you may need to have done in USA as your son seems to have enough to do already.

Evelyn joins me in sending you our best wishes for an exciting 1995.

Sincerely,

Eric P. Newman

Mr. Clyde Hubbard

April 17, 1995

[REDACTED]

Dear Clyde:

I have not replied to your March 2, 1995 letter to me and Evelyn because I was pressured to complete my article on the \$ sign. That has just been sent to ANS and will be published in June or July. Am I glad it is finished! It was very difficult because of extra extensive research looking for needles in haystacks.

I am sorry you have a conflict as to our book fair and cannot come. Maybe next year. Come anytime to see us.

Our Mexican adventure's most pleasant memories are being in Cuernavaca with you. We were delighted in spite of Evelyn's bacteria. Your fields of interest are not only extensive but so great in depth. When we returned we even did research on the finback whale we saw in Baja and learned his or her vibrations are 2 per second when sonar is used for echo location. This is in comparison with a bat at 200,000 per second. The whale vibrations seem to go hundreds of miles. Hope your vibrations are fine.

John Kleeberg of ANS wrote me the enclosed letter and I wonder if you can help him. He is a superb researcher and apparently discovered the false pistareens of Charles III made in copper for silver plating. He thinks they could be of American manufacture because he found two as undercoins for Machins Mills counterfeit halfpence made in New York. You should answer him directly if you care to and send me a copy.

Professor Peter Gaspar (chemistry) in St. Louis is delighted with the Britannica article and forwarded it to Graham Dyer, Master of the Royal Mint. They will study its detail because it is written by the coin of the period. Dyer was aware of a later publication of the article but not your version.

I started Sidney Levinson of St. Louis in numismatics and helped him build his collection. He died much too early and his brother sold the collection at Stacks for his widow, etc. Small world.

Evelyn and I were invited by Colonial Williamsburg to go there next month to examine their numismatic finds of recent years, etc. It will be fun to work there in that atmosphere. If there is anything Mexican or Spanish I'll advise you.

We plan to go to England in July for about two weeks as our grandson is there working for his masters at Oxford in philosophy.

I presume we will get together at the annual ANA in Anaheim in August. This is the only convention I customarily go to. I and others will be giving talks at a special presentation by the ANS as an educational program. I usually stay through the Saturday night banquet and leave Sunday morning. Marget expects to come. Let me know your plans.

My payment at [REDACTED] was by credit card as you guessed so I was somewhat lucky. Since you bought the deposit of [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] for which check is enclosed.

We really appreciated that hotel. Thanks again.

If you can buy an easily readable Zacatecas 1811 or 1812 \$ real piece for me reasonably I would appreciate it. I have a cut quarter section of one counter stamped Nouvelle Orleans and would like a whole piece to display with it. If you can find any 1822 Mexican paper money other than the \$1 I would like that.

My two close numismatic friends in St. Louis died and I will miss them. One of them was Ruth Hill, one of the leading foreign money collectors, and my museum was granted priority in exhibiting her material for the future pursuant to her will or trust.

Among other things I now have to sit down and write an article for the Colonial Newsletter, also a presentation in October for the ANS Coinage of the Americas Conference and finish a book with George Mallis on American counterfeit coin detector scales.

I have a book I promised you and will give it to you at first opportunity.

Our very best to you and thanks again for everything. I hope your U.S. visits were fun.

Sincerely,

Eric P. Newman

Clyde Hubbard  
9297 Siempre Viva Rd.  
Suite MX 021-050  
San Diego, CA 92173

Cuernavaca, Mor., Mexico  
September 2, 1995

Dear Eric,

Thank your for the delightful three-hour luncheon with Angel Margo. Three hours seemed to pass in five minutes.

Enclosed are a few notes from Paraguay and Peru. Although they are of little value I hope they arrive safely in the mail.

Today is my son's fifty-first birthday but I have been unable to call him. Thank you for your invitation to see your maps, information which I will relay to him.

All the best to you and Evelyn.

Sincerely,

Clyde Hubbard

Cuernavaca, Mexico  
Sept. 13.

Dear Eric-

This table was not included in the group of papers I sent to you last week.

It seems to summarize the whole Spanish coinage that you question.

If any point still seems obscure or if you cannot read my rough translation, please do not hesitate to ask.

Now I have a question.

What information do you have on WHEW The \$ sign was first used in North America? I do not recall that you mentioned this in your AFA talk. Earliest I have seen in print is 1768 in Louisiana but it must have appeared before this.

First written use I have seen in Mexico is 1822 on a document I have.

All the best-

Chas

To: John Kleeberg, ANS  
October 27, 1998  
Clyde Hubbard, Cuernavaca

The American Numismatic Society holds a pair of unused dies for an 1846 Mexican 8 escudo gold coin with a Mo (Mexico City) mintmark. These dies were part of a gift to ANS in 1921 from the family of John G. Kellogg. Kellogg coined private California gold coins in his own name in 1854 but worked for other California assayers and coiners before then, having arrived in California on October 12, 1849 as part of the Gold Rush. These dies are of superb craftsmanship. They are in beautiful condition.

It is my conjecture that these dies may be genuine dies from the Mexico City mint which dies were liberated by the U.S. Army during or shortly after the conclusion of the Mexican War or voluntarily released by Mexican authorities to be used in California for converting gold dust into coins for commercial convenience of Mexicans and others living in the California or adjacent regions.

The conjecture arises because of the timing of historical events. Mexico city was occupied on September 13, 1847 by U.S. troops after the defeat of the Mexican forces. The Guadalupe Hidalgo Treaty was signed February 2, 1848 confirming the title to the California region and much of the southwest to the United States. Gold was discovered in California on January 24, 1848, only nine days prior to the date on which the Treaty was signed. During 1847 new dies dated 1847 had been made for the Mexico City mint coinage so that the dies dated 1846 were obsolete when the U.S. Army arrived.

The need for coin in place of gold dust as a medium of exchange in California became urgent and private gold mints sprung up there beginning in 1849 and lasted for a few years.


Is it possible that someone took a pair of Mexican dies from Mexico City which ended up in the hands of a California coiner to use for gold coinage for public use? They were a left over item in Mexico City. It is difficult to determine if the existing ANS dies have been used for striking coins or not.

The coiners in California customarily transferred their equipment from one to another and whoever might have had the dies before Kellogg arrived might have chosen to use them only if his own dies were not delivered or completed, preferring to make coins which looked somewhat like U.S. gold coins or be in dollar denominations. The Mexican dies might have been used in California to some extent. In any event Kellogg finally acquired the dies. He also could have had them made in California by Albrecht Kner who was a skilled German die-sinker there, but there was little reason for him to counterfeit Mexican coins. Kellogg and his family cared for the dies they possessed as bubs and dies for his company's \$20 coin exist and dies for his company's \$50 piece exist as well as the Mexican 8 escudos dies under consideration.

I would appreciate any comments either of you or others care to make. I find the matter most unusual and intriguing.

P.S. This letter was written before receiving Clyde's October 5, 1998 reply to a prior letter.





Clyde Hubbard  
9051-C Siempre Viva Rd.  
Suite MX 21-50  
San Diego, CA 92173

Cuernavaca, Morelos, Mexico  
November 3, 1996

Dear Eric,

Thank you for the copy of the article about the first Mexico City Mint.

Some day I will make some observations about why the Indians rejected the copper coinage. Basically, the natives rejected the treatment by Spaniards who tried to force copper coins on them in commerce. A few cases of 100 lashes for non-acceptance of copper was sufficient to convince them that it was a bad deal. Spaniards did not want copper any more than the Indians but the punishment applied only to natives.

All the best.

Sincerely,



Clyde Hubbard

PLEASE NOTE CHANGE OF STREET NUMBER.

ERIC P. NEWMAN NUMISMATIC EDUCATION SOCIETY

6450 Cecil Avenue, St. Louis, Missouri 63105

July 30, 1997

Mr. Clyde Hubbard  
9297 Siempre Viva Rd.  
Suite MX 021-050  
San Diego, CA 92173

Dear Clyde:

I did not go to the ANA Convention in New York and assume that you attended as customary. Margo was there and I presume you saw her.

I congratulate you on completing your book on hooked neck eagles and know you are getting great satisfaction from it and deserved praise.

I am just checking the final pages for the 4th edition of **The Early Paper Money of America** which I will send to you wherever you designate. It has in it some of the playing card money I learned about when I was looking at your library books in Cuernavaca.

Now I have a problem right down your alley. I enclosed a photocopy of a note for the Louisiana Territory under Spain. It is dated 1795 and a proof found in the Archives in Seville. Can you locate the June 24, 1795 decree authorizing it, and give me a translation into English of whatever you may find? It may never have been issued but since it covers an area now constituting the U.S., it is important to know about it. Perhaps you know about it already.

Evelyn and I are still working at our many projects and talk about our visit with you often.

Our best wishes,

Sincerely,



Eric P. Newman

EPN:bv

Clyde Hubbard  
9051-C Siempre Viva Rd.  
Suite MX 21-50  
San Diego, CA 92173

Cuernavaca, Morelos, Mexico  
October 29, 1997

Eric P. Newman  
6450 Cecil Avenue  
St. Louis, Missouri 63105

Dear Eric:

Please excuse me for a very tardy answer to your letter of July 30 enclosing a photocopy of a note for the Louisiana Territory under Spain. Since I could not come up with the information you want I delayed and delayed.

The closest reference I have includes a five-page summary of Spanish laws of that year but no paper money is mentioned.

In past years I have exchanged copies of historical documents with Juan Cayón a dealer in Spain whose address is enclosed. This is an old envelope so it may not be current.

I look forward to seeing the 4th edition of your Early Paper Money of America. The above address will reach me and I thank you in advance for your kindness.

Our book on the first coins of the Republic of Mexico is moving along at the slow pace we had anticipated. Reviews have all been favorable. I have asked coauthor David O'Harrow to send you a copy with our compliments.

I skipped ANA New York but spent a few days in Colorado Springs just before the convention.

Last numismatic event attended was the Guadalajara, Jalisco coin show. We drove from Cuernavaca, "we" being the president of our local club and myself. The eight-hour trip was over excellent toll roads after going through Toluca.

All the best to you and Evelyn.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Clyde", with a stylized flourish at the end.

Clyde Hubbard

Subj: Re: (no subject)  
 Date: 09/12/2002 6:22:22 PM Central Daylight Time  
 From: [REDACTED] (Clyde Hubbard)  
 To: [REDACTED]

Dear Eric

Glad to hear from you via Jerry Morgan. Thank you for relaying the Charles and Johanna photos from Joe Lasser.

The coin came from Kent Ponterio and was a part of the big hoard they acquired. I have several with missing punches but had not see this variety. You and Evelyn hit some cold spots. I like warm Cuernavaca. Piece of eight sounds to me as you suspect from peso de a ocho. First I had heard from you about the encyclopedia set. Can't imagine what you might have that would be tempting for trade. I am still accumulating books - numismatic and other.

All the best to you and Evelyn

Clyde

----- Original Message -----

From: [REDACTED]  
 To: [REDACTED]  
 Sent: Wednesday, September 11, 2002 9:12 PM  
 Subject: (no subject)

Dear Clyde: I was delighted that you were contacted by my fellow St. Louisian, Jerry Morgan, at the meeting to celebrate the 50th anniversary of your numismatic club. Mint masters galore were there and I told Jerry that you were the real mint master. I did not attend the ANA in New York because Evelyn and I were on a cruise to Spitsbergen and saw a pristine world there. We went up to the North Polar Ice Pack at over 81 degrees north. I have been writing on numismatic subjects as usual and in the course of it learned that the first use of Peso as a monetary symbol instead of a weight was in PESO DE OCHO REALES and I presume that is why the strange expression in English of "piece of eight" originated as an alliterative translation. Is that sound?

I sincerely hope you are thriving as well as other members of your family. We make repairs to ourselves as needed. My grandson just got his PHD in philosophy at M.I.T. and I have no idea what he is talking about.

I believe I wrote you long ago that I would so much like to trade you something in numismatic literature which you need for the early encyclopedia you have and which I located and read in your library while you took Evelyn to the doctor who cured her. I do not know if you ever received it.

The Numismatist will soon publish a comic article I wrote on the need to organize a Fake Coin Club of America because of the immense number of fakes which are being marketed.

If there is anything I can do for you around here please let me know. Best greetings from Evelyn and Eric.

----- Headers -----

Return-Path: [REDACTED]

Received: from rly-xa05.mx.aol.com (rly-xa05.mail.aol.com [172.20.105.74]) by air-xa01.mail.aol.com (v88.20) with ESMTP id MAILINXA14-0912192222; Thu, 12 Sep 2002 19:22:22 2000

Friday, September 13, 2002 America Online: [REDACTED]

Subj: (no subject)  
Date: 09/15/2002 10:55:33 AM Central Daylight Time  
From: [REDACTED]  
To: [REDACTED]

Dear Clyde: As soon as I received your nice Email I read in the Coin World of Sept. 23, 2002 that the earliest Mexican 8 reales has been discovered and is attributed to 1538. The "experts" who passed on it are Richard Ponterio, Mike Dunigan and Larry Lee. The Goldbergs have it and it is said to come from an "old undisclosed collection." It is on the front page and the records it is said support its existence although it has not heretofore been known to exist. I would not be surprised if you had one or more. Perhaps you know about it already.

I was glad my friend Joe Lasser contacted you with respect to his problem.

A new numismatic book by Louis Jordan of Notre Dame University entitled JOHN HULL, THE MINT AND THE ECONOMICS OF MASSACHUSETTS COINAGE has just come out and has ledger entries and discussion of the purchase and conversion of Spanish American silver into Sterling fineness for Pine Tree coinage. It gives the detail from Hull's ledger over a long period. It is 8 1/2 X 11 inches in size and 348 pages. It will be a classic. Are you interested?

The new book by Q. David Bowers on California gold coinage history is oversize, about 1,000 pages long and gorgeously illustrated, but features the Central America gold bars. I told him it was a coffee table book but the coffee table goes on top of the book rather than vice versa.

These books are teasers to get you to think about the Britannica. My best  
Eric

Subj:	Re: (no subject)
Date:	09/15/2002 7:11:41 PM Central Daylight Time
From:	[REDACTED] (Clyde Hubbard)
To:	[REDACTED]

Dear Eric

A friend called me from the States and read the whole article about the "discovery" 8R of Charles and Johanna. I referred back to Nesmith's book published by ANA in 1955 in which he says: "Occasionally, a so-called Charles and Johanna piece of eight reales appears, but to date all have been fabrications." I do have an 8R but it is a fantasy piece struck in the 1930's of the second type that has waves under the pillars, which of course is wrong. The only discrepancy I noted from hearing the text of the CW article was the fineness checked at 85% instead of 93% silver. Rick P. has handled more C&J material than anyone else but I prefer to hear him personally state his opinion. One dealer is not apt to come out in public to dispute a claim - an easy way to start legal action and cause hard feelings. Haven't seen and probably will not see the coin which has been slabbed. Slabbing will slow down further close examination. Thank you for telling me about the new books just released. I do not buy any of QDB's books which are priced beyond my thinking. Clyde

----- Original Message -----

From: [REDACTED]  
 To: [REDACTED]  
 Sent: Sunday, September 15, 2002 10:55 AM  
 Subject: (no subject)

Dear Clyde: As soon as I received your nice Email I read in the Coin World of Sept. 23, 2002 that the earliest Mexican 8 reales has been discovered and is attributed to 1538. The "experts" who passed on it are Richard Ponterio, Mike Dunigan and Larry Lee. The Goldbergs have it and it is said to come from an "old undisclosed collection." It is on the front page and the records it is said support its existence although it has not heretofore been known to exist. I would not be surprised if you had one or more. Perhaps you know about it already.

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Sunday, September 15, 2002 America Online: [REDACTED]

These books are teasers to get you to think about the Britannica. My best  
Eric

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----- Headers -----

Return-Path: <[REDACTED]>

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Date: Sun, 15 Sep 2002 19:18:45 -0500

From: Clyde Hubbard <[REDACTED]>

Subject: Re: (no subject)

To: [REDACTED]

Message-id: <00c01c25d16\$a0c194e0\$1e8542c8@clydehub>

MIME-version: 1.0

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X-Mailer: Microsoft Outlook Express 5.50.4133.2400

Content-type: multipart/alternative;

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X-Priority: 3

X-MSMail-priority: Normal

References: <30.2cf1b064.2ab60775@aol.com>

Subj: Re: 8 reales 1538  
 Date: 09/16/2002 10:39:27 AM Central Daylight Time  
 From: [REDACTED] (Clyde Hubbard)  
 To: [REDACTED]

Eric: C&J coins were supposed to be made 67 reales per mark. The mark weighed 230.465 grams so an 8R should weigh 27.468 grams. Fineness based on the Spanish system was equivalent to 93% silver; the alloy was copper. I still use tables in Eckfeldt and Du Bois' book of 1842 to check specific gravity.

Clyde,---- Original Message -----

From: [REDACTED]  
 To: [REDACTED]  
 Sent: Monday, September 16, 2002 10:00 AM  
 Subject: 8 reales 1538

Clyde: You are so right. The 850 fineness is based upon Larry Lee's determination that the coin weighed 26.0872 grams and had a 10.2673 specific gravity. There is no way I know that the fineness can be determined without knowing the metals constituting the adulterant. As you say with the coin slabbed there is no chemical analysis possible to determine whether copper, zinc, lead, clay or anything else is in the adulterant mix. Eric

----- Headers -----

Return-Path: [REDACTED]  
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 Date: Mon, 16 Sep 2002 10:46:50 -0500  
 From: Clyde Hubbard <[REDACTED]>  
 Subject: Re: 8 reales 1538  
 To: [REDACTED]  
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